



## MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

**Description of proposal:** Sterling Timber Sale, Agreement No. 30-084494 and Forest Practices Application No. 2919985. This is a variable retention harvest of 119 acres in 4 units, with 100 feet of required road construction, 3,919 feet of optional road construction, of which 185 feet will be abandoned following the completion of the logging, and 13,276 feet of required pre-haul maintenance.

**Description of mitigation:** The following mitigation measures will be implemented with this proposal:

- Riparian Management Zones (RMZ) averaging 192 feet wide on a type 3 stream adjacent to Unit 3, 186 feet wide on two type 3 streams adjacent to Unit 4, and 165 feet wide on a type 3 stream adjacent to Unit 1. A minimum 100-foot RMZ along two type 4 streams adjacent to the proposal area have been retained to protect water quality, provide corridors for wildlife, and maintain habitat for fish and amphibians.
- Wildlife tree and snag recruitment will be accomplished by retaining a minimum of 8 trees per acre, consisting of conifer and hardwood species.
- A Leave Tree clump has been placed around a small spring and wet area.
- The transportation system for this proposal has been designed to utilize existing roads as much as possible.
- Roads are generally located on ridgetops.
- Landings and roads have been located to minimize yarding distances.
- Harvest areas were surveyed for potential marbled murrelet habitat. Some isolated trees containing platforms were found, however, they did not constitute marbled murrelet habitat but will be retained on the landscape.
- This proposal will involve operations adjacent to or near high voltage powerlines, gas pipelines, a communication tower site, a county road, and a State highway. All legally mandated safety precautions will be followed when operating near these features. The Purchaser will be required to obtain all necessary permits, and contact the proper authorities, when operating around these features.

**Proponent:** Department of Natural Resources

**Location of proposal:** Sections 15, 16, and 17, Township 18 North, Range 3 West, W.M., and Sections 14, 20, and 21, Township 18 North, Range 4 West, W.M. Units 1 and 2 are located approximately 10 to 12 miles by road, west of Olympia, off the S-Line road system, and Units 3 and 4 are located approximately 6 to 7 miles by road, east of McCleary, off the A-Line and KC-Line road systems. Units 1, 2, and 3 are located in Thurston County. Most of Unit 4 is located in Grays Harbor County, with approximately 2.6 acres of the unit located in Thurston County.

Lead agency: Department of Natural Resources

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

☐ There is no comment period for this Mitigated DNS.

☒ This MDNS is issued under 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from August 09, 2009. Comments must be submitted by September 8, 2009.

Responsible official: Julie Sackett

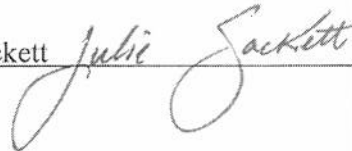
Position/title: Pacific Cascade Assistant Region Manager, State Lands

Phone: (360) 577-2025

Address: PO Box 280 Castle Rock, Washington 98611-0280

Date 8/21/09

Signature Julie Sackett



There is no agency SEPA appeal.